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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this curriculum outline is to define the basic language arts requirements for junior high school students in the Oak Park (Illinois) school district. For grades 7 and 8 the topics covered in mechanics, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, parts of speech, language usage, and sentence style are outlined. In addition, a summary of the writing styles, composition skills, literature, vocabulary, and listening and speaking skills covered at the junior high level is provided. (LP)

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DISTRICT 97

OAK PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

OAK PARK, ILLINOIS

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JUNIOR HIGH LANGUAGE ARTS COURSE OF STUDY

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Course of Study is to identify the common educational experiences within the four major areas of the language arts curriculum. This document defines the basic requirements for junior high students in District 97. It is not intended to limit the style or methods of the individual teacher or the use of enrichment materials additional to the basic texts.

CS 207 995-

LANGUAGE SKILLS

7TH

MECHANICS

SPELLING

Emphasize:

- spelling of high frequency words
- rules for spelling

CAPITALIZATION

Review:

- rules for capitalization

PUNCTUATION

Review:

- rules for punctuation

GRAMMAR

PARTS OF SPEECH

Review:

- noun
- verb
- adjective
- adverb
- pronoun
- preposition

Emphasize:

- personal and possessive pronouns
- modifiers (single word, phrases)

Introduce:

- conjunctions
- interjections

USAGE

Review:

- subject-verb agreement

Emphasize:

- pronoun-antecedent agreement

Introduce:

- case of pronouns (possessive, subjective, objective)

SENTENCES

Review:

- definition of a sentence, fragment, and run-on

Emphasize:

- complete subject and predicate
- simple subject and verb

Introduce:

- simple sentence
- simple sentence with compound parts
- compound sentences

8TH

MECHANICS

SPELLING

Emphasize:

- spelling of high frequency words
- rules for spelling

CAPITALIZATION

Review:

- rules for capitalization

PUNCTUATION

Review:

- rules for punctuation

GRAMMAR

PARTS OF SPEECH

Review:

- eight parts of speech

Emphasize:

- noun functions
- subject
- predicate noun
- object of the verb
- object of preposition

Introduce:

- verb tenses
- principal parts of the verb

USAGE

Review:

- subject-verb agreement

Emphasize:

- pronoun-antecedent agreement
- case of pronouns

Introduce:

- consistency of verb tense

SENTENCES

Review:

- definition of a sentence, fragment, and run-on

Emphasize:

- simple sentence
- simple sentence with compound parts
- compound sentences

Introduce:

- complex sentences

WRITING SKILLS

7TH

8TH

WRITING WILL BE PRESENTED AS A PROCESS

Prewriting

Drafting

Revising

Editing

COMPOSING SKILLS

Develop good sentences.

- Complete thoughts
- Clear and precise words
- Vocabulary appropriate to purpose

Manipulate sentences.

- Combination of ideas
- Rearrangement of ideas
- Subtraction of repetitious words
- Expansion of ideas

Develop good paragraphs.

- Accurate and appropriate topic sentence
- Supporting ideas
- Relevant details
- Effective organizational pattern
- Concluding statement

TYPES OF WRITING

Narrative, descriptive, and explanatory paragraphs

Reports

Letter writing

LITERATURE

7TH

TYPES OF WRITING

Emphasize:

- Short story
- Mythology
- Nonfiction

ELEMENTS OF FICTION

Introduce:

- Conflict
- Setting
- Characterization
- Point of view

LITERARY TERMS

Introduce:

- Irony
- Foreshadowing
- Flashback
- Figurative language

EMPHASIZE VOCABULARY

8TH

TYPES OF WRITING

Emphasize:

- Short story
- Nonfiction
- Poetry
- Drama

ELEMENTS OF FICTION

Emphasize:

- Conflict
- Setting
- Characterization
- Point of view

Introduce:

- Mood
- Theme

LITERARY TERMS

Introduce:

- Irony
- Foreshadowing
- Flashback
- Figurative language
- Satire

EMPHASIZE VOCABULARY

LISTENING AND SPEAKING SKILLS

7TH

8TH

- ← Participate in class discussion →
- ← Take notes based on teacher presentations →
- ← Develop memory skills →
- ← Give a formal speech, type to be determined by teacher →